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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GLENSIDE MAN ARRESTED FOR HOMICIDE BY VEHICLE IN DEC. 29 FATAL CRASH IN LOWER MORELAND TOWNSHIP



MICHAEL PETROCIK

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (Jan. 28, 2022)—Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and Lower Moreland Township Police Chief David J. Scirrotto announce the arrest of Michael Petrocik, 71, of Glenside, on charges of Homicide by Vehicle While DUI, DUI, Reckless Driving and other charges related to a Dec. 29, 2021, crash in the 3000 block of Philmont Avenue in Huntingdon Valley that killed 61-year-old Mary T. Duffy, who was walking her dog.

At 12:12 p.m., Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2021, Lower Moreland Township Police responded to a report of a vehicle/pedestrian crash at 3103 Philmont Avenue. Police and emergency medical personnel arrived to find the female victim lying on the sidewalk and an Audi A6 stopped on the grass approximately 164 feet from the pedestrian. The victim, later identified as Mary Duffy, was transported to Abington Hospital Trauma Center. The victim underwent emergency surgery but died at 1:27 a.m. Dec. 30, 2021. (The dog survived the crash.)

A crash investigation was launched by Lower Moreland Township Police, with assistance from the Montgomery County Detective Bureau. Police found that the entire crash was captured on a nearby business's surveillance video. Through review of the video, examination of the vehicle and reconstruction of the crash scene, the

investigation determined that the victim was walking her dog on the sidewalk in a northbound direction when the Audi, being driven by Petrocik in a northbound direction on Philmont Avenue, failed to navigate the turn and left the roadway, crossed a berm and a grass area. The vehicle then struck Duffy knocking her into a pole. The Audi continued after striking the victim across an asphalt driveway and a yard before hitting a stone wall and going airborne before coming to a rest.

The investigation determined that the Audi was travelling between 45 and 48 mph in a 35-mph zone before the crash, and that the defendant failed to react through the entire event, as the crash video showed no evidence of the Audi's brakes being engaged. Crash investigators determined that the cause of the crash was directly related to the manner in which Petrocik was operating his vehicle, including excessive speed, and Petrocik's level of impairment. Laboratory testing on the defendant's blood found that he had multiple controlled substances in his system.

Petrocik was arraigned on Jan. 27, 2022, before Magisterial District Judge Jay S. Friedenbergh, who set bail at \$20,000 cash. The defendant posted bail and was released. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for 8 a.m., March 15, 2022, before Judge Friedenbergh.

The case will be prosecuted by Assistant District Attorney Gabrielle C. Hughes.

Approved for release:

Kevin R. Steele

CRIMINAL CHARGES, AND ANY DISCUSSION THEREOF, ARE MERELY ALLEGATIONS AND ALL DEFENDANTS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL AND UNLESS PROVEN GUILTY.